



Department of Pesticide Regulation



Paul Helliher
Director

Gray Davis
Governor
Winston H. Hickox
Secretary, California
Environmental
Protection Agency

November 18, 2002

TO: Pest Control Dealer Licensees

SUBJECT: CLOPYRALID SALE RESTRICTIONS

PURPOSE

This letter describes the implementation of Chapter 591, Statutes of 2002 (AB 2356), which requires products containing clopyralid to be sold only by licensed Pest Control Dealers and only to qualified applicator license and certificate holders with the proper pest control category.

BACKGROUND

In the year 2000, clopyralid was detected in compost in Washington State and determined to be the cause of injury to garden plants. Grass clippings from residential lawns treated with clopyralid-containing products were considered to be one source of the residues in compost. Clopyralid was also detected in various composting facilities in California during 2002. In March 2002, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) initiated cancellation of clopyralid-containing products registered for use on residential lawns because residential lawns were the most likely and least controllable source of clopyralid residues in compost. Clopyralid-containing products registered for lawn and turf uses may continue to be used. However, dealers and clopyralid users may have received additional guidance from clopyralid registrants regarding stewardship practices to prevent the occurrence of residues in compost.

[**Note:** The lawn and turf restriction does not include use of clopyralid-containing products on lawn and turf located on turf farms, uncultivated open space, agriculture rangeland or cultivated farmland.]

IMPACT OF CLOPYRALID USE

Compost plays a critical role in implementing the California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. This law requires all cities and counties to develop source reduction, recycling, and composting programs to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the amount of solid waste disposed of in California. The economic viability of the California composting industry will be threatened if residential, agricultural, commercial, and public users of compost lose confidence in the quality and safety of compost as a result of clopyralid residue. Local governments and waste haulers

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divert six million tons of yard waste annually from landfills to composting facilities, making composting a principal means by which local governments meet the state's landfill diversion requirements.

REQUIREMENTS OF SALE

On January 1, 2003, Chapter 591 becomes effective. It will mandate that only licensed pest control dealers sell pesticides containing the active ingredient clopyralid. It will also require that pest control dealers only sell clopyralid-containing pesticides labeled for use on lawn and turf, including golf courses, to applicators holding a Qualified Applicator Certificate (QAC) or Qualified Applicator License (QAL) in the proper category. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in civil or criminal penalties.

Attached is a list of clopyralid-containing products registered with DPR for sale and use on lawn and turf in California as of November 2002. DPR will maintain a list of registered products at <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/label/labelque.htm>.

If you have any questions about clopyralid or Chapter 591, please contact your county agricultural commissioner's office or Mr. Adolfo Gallo, of my staff, at (916) 445-3895 or agallo@cdpr.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

David Duncan, Chief
Pest Management and Licensing Branch
(916) 324-4100

Attachment

cc: Mr. Adolfo Gallo, Program Specialist (w/Attachment)
Mr. Jim Shattuck, Agriculture Program Supervisor II (w/Attachment)
Dr. Nita Davidson, Associate Environmental Research Scientist (w/Attachment)
Mr. David Haskell, Associate Environmental Research Scientist (w/Attachment)
Mr. Daniel J. Merkley, Agricultural Commissioner Liaison (w/Attachment)

Registered clopyralid-containing products labeled for lawn and turf use (November 2002)		
Product Name	Label Uses	U.S. EPA Reg. No.
Lesco Momentum Premium Weed & Feed	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-340-AA-10404
Riverdale XRM-5202™ Premium Weed and Feed	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-340-AA
Howard Johnson's Weed & Feed with Millennium Ultra	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-343-AA-32802
Lontrel Turf and Ornamental	Turf, landscaping, sod farms	62719-305-AA
Riverdale Millennium Ultra Selective Herbicide	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-322-AA
Riverdale Millennium Ultra Weed and Feed	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-343-AA
Riverdale Trupower Selective Herbicide	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-323-AA
Tee Time 18-5-9 with Millennium Ultra Herbicide	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-343-AA- 9198
The Andersons Professional Turf Products 16-4-8 with Millenium Ultra Herbicide & PCSCU	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-343-ZB-9198
United Horticultural Supply Professional Turf Products 22-3-4 with Millennium Ultra	Ornamental turf, golf courses	228-343-ZA-9198
Confront	Golf courses	62719-92-AA
Lawn Fertilizer Plus Confront Weed Control	Residential lawns	62719-263-AA
Lebanon Proscape Homogeneous Fertilizer with Confront Herbicide Broadleaf Weed Control	Ornamental turf, golf courses	62719-262-AA- 961
Turf Fertilizer Contains Confront	Golf courses	62719- 262-AA